



Faron Victor Wilkins
“His History”



Faron and Lila

08/28/2014

Their Oldest Son, Duane

Their only daughter, Pat



08/28/2014



08/28/2014

Their middle son,
Stuart



Their youngest son,
Robert,

Faron Wilkins

Today is August 26, 2014. I am at the home of Faron and Lila Wilkins at 395 South 100 East in Vernal, Utah. They have consented to give us some history of their lives.

Faron: I'm Faron Wilkins and I was born February 25th, 1926 in my Grandmother Southam's house in Naples, Utah. She helped deliver me. The reason why we were there, one of the reasons, is that my dad was on a mission at that time and we were living with my mother and I had two older sisters and we were living with Grandma and Grandpa Southam while he was on his mission, that's one of the reasons. Also she could help take care of mother.



Isabel and George Henry Southam

Ellen: Where did your dad serve his mission?

Faron: He served his mission in the Central States [Mission]. He was gone for two and a half years. I was born while he was gone. I was two years old before he saw me. At that time when I was born, because of communication, them talking back and forth, to see what my name would be, my records went into the state as "Baby Wilkins." I didn't have a first name. After I got married and we wanted to get our birth certificates and things, I had to go out to the State and get an application and bring it back and have my mother and dad sign that my first name was Faron, Faron Victor Wilkins. Other than that, the records just showed Baby Wilkins. My father was Victor Wilkins and my mother was Merle Southam Wilkins. They both lived here in Vernal, well mother was born here. My dad was born in Peoa, Utah. Then they moved here when he was about six years old.



Victor and Merle Wilkins

Ellen: What brought them here?

Faron: His Granddad took his family and homesteaded up in Mountain Home, Utah, all of his children, there was like thirteen of them. They all homesteaded up there when the government let the Indian Reservation open for settlement. [1904-1905] My granddad came to Vernal, he was the only one out of the family [that came to Vernal]. I don't know why. I guess that's where the Lord wanted him. But anyway, he [wound up here]. They left and sold out in Peoa and Kamas and came here. He [Granddad] was the bishop of the ward for sixteen years, [Second Ward]. That's when he called my dad to go on a mission. He made arrangements with my mother's parents that they would take care of her and her children and he would take care of dad on his mission. Like I said, he served for two and a half years. He was called for two years and then the mission

president asked him if he would stay another six months and be his assistant, which he did. This kind of shook my mother up a little. I don't remember that, only the things they told me. Where Grandma and Grandpa Southam lived, it was a half a mile down to the mail box. The mail didn't go [right] by her place. So every day she would walk down that half of mile to see if there was a letter. Then there was an old cottonwood tree about half way back up to the house and she would come to that cottonwood tree and she would sit down on it and read the letter and then come on home. When she got the letter that my dad was going to stay, my Grandpa was watching her and he said that she sat there for a long time.



An Old Cottonwood Tree

Lila: When he left, she had thirty-five dollars.

Faron: When she got back to the house, he (Grandpa) kind of looked at her and said, "They want to keep him, don't they?" She said, "Yes." It was a good experience for him, those six months. He had a lot of good experience. He spent two different times, just with his mission president and him, with President Grant in his hotel, three hour sessions. President Grant was teaching them and things like that. Those experiences he had during that time, while he was there was when they moved the Prophet and Hyrum and his wife to Nauvoo, Illinois, where they are now. [The gravesites were moved to Nauvoo, Illinois.] They dug them out of their graves and his mission president went up and witnessed them digging up to move them. [He participated in] just different things that happened there that was a part of history. Then after the six months was up, he came home and we moved into a log house out on a 120 acre farm my granddad had out there. It was on South Vernal Avenue [2500 South on South Vernal Avenue]. Louis Gardiner and his family lived on the east

The Wilkins Family—Clyde, Verla, Faron, Velda, Wayne and Elaine are on the back row. Merle, Edgar and Victore are seated in front.

west side.



Ellen: Did you purchase that from someone?

Faron: My Granddad did. Well, he came here and that was part of the place that he bought. My father helped him farm, they worked together. We lived there till I was in the fourth grade and then we bought a house uptown and moved to town. My dad said he didn't want to be a farmer. He then took up a trucking business and hauled livestock and different things for sheep men and

cattle men. Us kids as we grew up, he had six children when we moved to town. My youngest brother was born after we moved to town. We had three boys and three girls out there. Gardiner's was the only neighbors we had right across the road. They had kids the same age so we all played together and just did different things.

Ellen: What kind of things? Did you ever get in trouble?

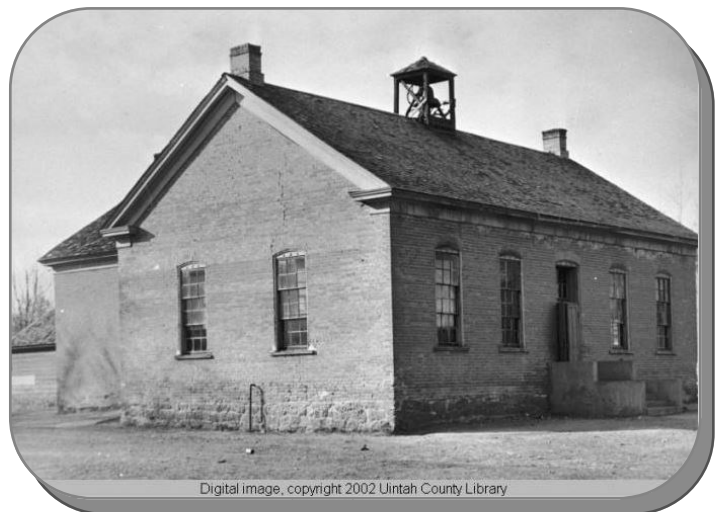
Faron: Oh, we had fun. When you have fun, you get in trouble. Mother raised a garden and we helped her in the garden. We had a canal that went by there and we would swim in the canal in the summer time. We would swim as a family. The [swimming] hole wasn't big enough [to swim], we would just get in the water and get wet. That's just kind of the way we spent our days there. We raised chickens and cows and horses. We had a horse that we rode all the time. We would put the saddle on her and two of us would get on her and ride around the country. We would go out to the foothills out south. By the time we got out there and back, we had killed the day cause it was five miles out there. When my dad first came back, we went to Naples to church. My two older sisters went to Naples, started school in Naples. At that time to just before I started school, my dad got a contract with the school district to haul school kids in the winter time, bringing them to Central and to the high school. I rode with him, rode that bus, so I went to Central School. My granddad had built a house here in town by then. My sisters came up and lived with him while their first year in school. They went to first grade at Central School. Then they went to Naples until they got the bus, then they went back to Central.

Lila: Faron, tell about the bus your dad made.

Faron: Well, at that time, he had this truck that he used in the summertime and he just built a box on the back of it. It was a wooden box. We called it the chicken coop. I don't remember how many children it hauled. He would get about thirty kids or so. He had a route that he had to take. There was no heat in the winter.



The Central School with the fire escape located north of the one pictured above.



The Central School

There were windows in the sides. I wasn't dark. We had our coats and our overshoes and was just glad to get to school. We just dressed warm [to ride in the bus]. I went to school at Central, the old school that had the bell on it, that's the one we went to. Well, the other one was there too. They were both there. It just depends which grade you were in. The old school only had third and fourth grades in it. It only had three rooms. That is where the third and fourth grade went. The other grades, up to six, was in the other building. They called it the new building. It had the fire escape in it. We used to

climb up that fire escape and slide down [from the second floor]. It was open at the bottom and sealed at the top. It was bolted to a window. They just took the window out. In the summer time and on weekends, us kids would go over there and play on the swings and different things. We'd climb up in that and slide back out.

My grandfather had a farm right here where we are now. This was my grandfather's farm, he owned forty acres right here, from Vernal Avenue to the fairgrounds, about two and one-half east and then he owned from third south to fourth south. It consisted of forty acres. He built a house there and we farmed, or they farmed. I got to work a little on it but I can remember where my house is now was a big hay field. In the summer time we would put up hay and cut hay. They always had a rodeo on the Fourth of July and a race meet. That was when we were putting up the first cutting of hay. It was loose hay so you pitched it on a wagon and then during the rodeo, we would pull the wagon down by the race track. We would climb up on the hay and watch the rodeo and the races, it [made] softer seats [for us to sit on]. Then he had an orchard here. My mother always raised a garden. When we was old enough, we worked in the garden. I had a cow I had to milk, night and morning. There were chickens to feed, pigs to feed, lawn to mow, just worked around the house until I got old enough to start [helping my dad]. By then he had two trucks. I would go on the trucks once in a while. He taught me to drive when I was fifteen. I never got a driver's license till I was sixteen, but I was driving.

We had a guy, I can't remember his name, and he came in and put in a bowling alley there where Marella's (91 West Main) is. This was the first one in Vernal and it was there where the book store is and it was Duck Pins, not to many people have heard of Duck Pins. They used about the same size pins as they do now only the bowling ball they used was small, a little bigger than a baseball. He had two lanes. He would hire kids our age to set the pins. You had to be on your toes or you'd get that ball down there, some of them guys wouldn't wait for you get out of the way and they could throw them things. They

would roll them down there but they would throw them. Balls now, they just roll them slow but those ball would come lickety-split. Those pins would go in all directions. He run that for three or four years. We'd get a job, some of us kids here in the neighborhood, there was Lowell Walker and me and I don't know whether Evert Merkley ever got in on that or not, but there were different ones. He'd pay us so much a line to set pins. Lowell Walker lived right here and he was just a year younger than me. There was different kids that would get a job there.

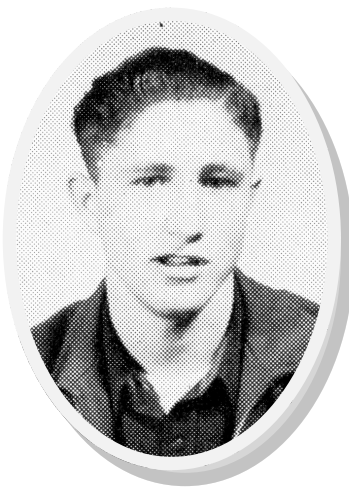
Ellen: So what kind of a young man were you? Were you smart and studious? Did you participate in clubs ?

Bowling Alley Opens in David Witmer Building

Under the management of H. E. Robinson of Oak Creek Colo the Vernal Bowling Alley opened Wednesday in the David Witmer building east of the Hotel Service Mr Robinson has had considerable experience in the amusement field having operated bowling alleys in Oak Creek

Two 50 foot maple alleys have been constructed in the building Other alleys will be added in the fall according to Mr Robinson Duck pin type of balls and pins and alleys will be used which are popular throughout the country Similar bowling alley resorts are now operated in Craig and Steamboat Springs

Bowling is a healthful recreation for both ladies and men

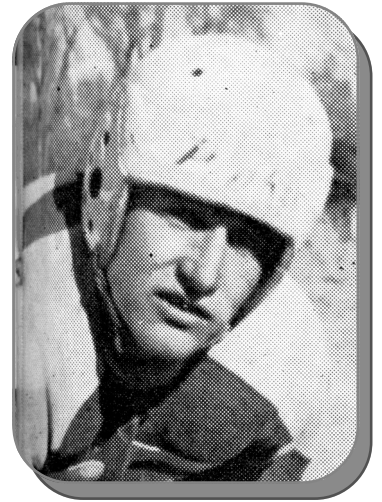


Faron Wilkins

Faron: FFA [Future Farmers of America] Club was the only club I was in.

Ellen: Well, what was your favorite subject? Did you get good grades in school? Did school matter to you?

Faron: It mattered, but not as much as it should have done. Homework, I wasn't proud of that. Well, by the time I got home from school and got my chores and that done, I was done for the day. We walked to school every morning and home at night. From the time we moved to town, we walked to the High School. Everybody did in this area. I participated in football the last year I was in high school. We played six man football. Nobody every heard of that. We played that. We would go around to Alterra and Roosevelt and play their teams. We didn't have enough teams to form a regular football team.



Faron Wilkins

Pat: Was that because of the war?

Faron: No, there just wasn't that many kids. I graduated in 1944. The war went for a year and a half after I graduated.

Ellen: Did you serve in the war?

Faron: I served in the Navy. I went in the Navy in November of 1944 and I got out in July of 1946. I served in the Pacific theatre and there was nothing spectacular. I went through boot camp in San Diego, California, in November and December of that year. I came home on leave the last of December and went back in January and got put on an LST [Landing Ship Tank], they called it the amphibious fleet then. It was the largest ship in the amphibious fleet. We called that LST, the "Long Slow Trip". Our top speed was thirteen knots and a knot is a mile and an eighth, so 15 miles an hour is as fast as we could go. I got it in San Diego and went from there to Hawaii and we stayed in Hawaii till the last of May. We done maneuvers and everything. We practiced around the Hawaiian Islands and then about the first of May they moved us over where the Arizona was and they built stalls in our tank deck, bunkers up on our deck. They were going to load us with ammunition and supplies for the invasion of Okinawa. Just before they got ready to load up, they canceled those orders. So then we went from there to Saipan [Guam] and all we had, I think there were other ships in the convoy. When we went from San Diego to Hawaii, we went by ourselves. After that we went in a convoy. I don't know how long it took up to go to Guam but then that was our home base. We hauled supplies from there to Okinawa for the troops. We stayed in that area, we made a trip down to the Philippines while we were there. I don't know why we went down there but we did, cause they told us to, I guess. Then we just stayed there and worked out of Saipan into Okinawa.



Ellen: Did you ever run into anyone from home?

Faron's Time in the Navy



Faron in Hawaii



The LST 208 Ship that Faron was assigned to.

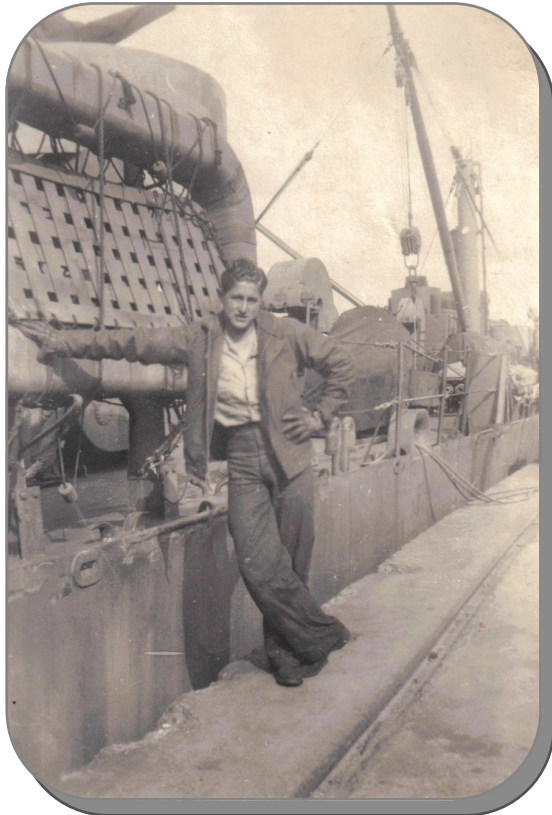


Unloading Cargo in Hawaii



208 LST Ship of the United States Navy

Faron was assigned to this "Long Slow Transport"



Standing by the Ship in Shanghi, China



Being Pulled in a Rickshaw

Faron: Yes, It was interesting. I seen Dan Price one day in Hawaii but I didn't get to talk to him. He was up on the dock when we pulled in there one day. After the war was over, there was ten LST's that they loaded the 10th Army on Okinawa and we took them to Korea to be security and training for the Korean people, for the people of South Korea. They were just starting [to aid Korea] then. While that 10th Army, we loaded them there one afternoon. I was on watch but I never did see this guy come on, after we were loaded and had everything secure, I was walking down the deck and I hear somebody scream my name. Here come Durell Chivers coming down the ship. He was on there for three or four days so I got to visit with him. The only other one that I run into from Vernal was Gene Hall [Gene Ray Hall]. We ran around together and was good friends and after the war we went to Sumac Bay in the Philippines to decommission. Every evening they would have a coke, like that you could go buy coke. I was in that line and I run into Gene. He was stationed there. He was on the mail boat. He would haul mail up and down the Philippine coast for the ships. Two or three evenings we would get together and go downtown and just walk around. That was the only two that I had [any connection with.] Well one time, for we left Okinawa, my uncle Grant Southam was in the Seabee's and they were stationed in Buckner Bay and that's where we went in all the time. I got permission one afternoon to go see him, so I went and saw him and after we took the 10th Army to Korea, on our way back we hit a typhoon. We were in it three nights and two days. It hit us in the evening, 165 mile an hour wind and there was ten ships and we were empty on our way back to Okinawa. When one of those storms hit, ships get out into the ocean, they send them away from land because they will wreck. There was a ship there in Buckner Bay that was there when we left and it never got out. I don't know why, it was washed up on the beach just sitting there high and dry. I got permission to go see Grant one other time after we got back. After that, they sent us to China and we hauled Japanese prisoners from Shanghai and Hong Kong back to Kaki gam Sasebo, Japan, in December. These were Japanese prisoners that had been in China. We were taking them home. We made three trips and then we went back to Shanghai and they built stalls in our tank decks. Out tank deck was fifty feet wide and two hundred feet long. It was just a big open ship. We hauled infantry, we hauled tanks, and just things that they needed inside out tank deck. We built those stalls and then we would haul 150 mules and a 150 Chinese Calvary up to Manchuria. We spent January until the first of June doing that. Shanghai and Hong Kong, Shanghai was our main headquarters. It would take three days to go to Manchuria from Shanghai and two days back. Then they sent us down to Hong Kong and that took five days. We spent five months doing this.

Ellen: At this time, was Hong Kong controlled by the British?

Faron: Yes, it was controlled by the British. It was pretty good there. They had some pretty modern buildings and they hadn't had any destruction from the war or anything. Shanghai, you could find anything in Shanghai, plus a lot of people. You couldn't drive a car up the main street in Shanghai. It was just one mass of people, each direction.

Pat: Dad, is that where you said that they would float out into the bay?

Faron: Oh yeah. Up the river twenty or twenty-five miles from the oceans to Shanghi.

Pat: You said something about that they would get under cardboard boxes or something. Where was that?

Faron: Oh no, that was in Okinawa before the war ended. The Japanese got pretty desperate. They would

come back into the harbors there, sneak in at night and they would put a box over their head and swim out to the ships and climb up their anchors. Then they would get on there and kill and they had quite a lot of that going on so when we got there we had deck watches, with a rifle. If anything come floating around, you filled it full of holes. That kind of took care of that problem. It really got to be a problem, that and the suicide planes. They would hit there every so often too.

Ellen: The war ended and did you stay in for any period of time?

Faron: The war ended in 1945 [September] and then I didn't get out until July of 1946. I don't know what they run out of but they sent us to Sumac Bay in the Philippines and that's where they put us out of action. They have a big harbor there. Before we got there, we threw all of our ammunition, everything that was loose was thrown into the ocean. They didn't want anything on them that was any good. So we just threw it over the side. When we got to Sumac Bay, all we had was our engines.

Ellen: If they decommissioned these ships, did they just not bring them back to the United States?

Faron: They never did bring them back. They just left them to the Philippines. There was a lot of them. I don't know how many LST's they decommissioned. We spent about two weeks and everyday we would move one of those ships to a different place and tie it up where it stayed. There was a lot of work to do. They didn't let you lay around. Then when it was time to come home, they sent a troop ship in there and loaded all that was ready to go and we went from there up to Japan and finished filling it. From there we came straight to San Francisco. California.

Ellen: Were you married at this time?

Faron: Nooooo!

Ellen: Did you have to have a birth certificate [to enter the Navy]?

Faron: No, all I had to do was sign up. I signed up for the draft and they drafted me. We left here and there was about twenty-five of us on the bus. We met the bus here in town and they dropped us off. [Iva Cutshaw was the clerk to the local draft board, selective service] Alvin Weeks was the chairman of the board and N. J. Meagher was on the board. I don't remember whether Iva Cutshaw was on there or not. We went from here to Fort Douglas, that's where they inducted you. You took all your physicals and everything. There was quite a few here from Vernal, some from Roosevelt and some from Duchesne. When you went through the induction there, they would give you a little test when you first went in. I don't know whether it done any good or not, but anyway, Donna Mecham [Burchinal], she and my older sister were good friends, she was working at the desk where they decided who went where, whether you go Navy, Army, Air Corp or where ever you went. When I got to her, I said, "Hey, Donna, I want to go in the Navy." Whether it done any good or not, I don't know. The biggest share of the guys that went, went in the Army. There were six of us from the Basin that went in the Navy, there was Clark Abegglen, Norman Long, and then we had a Wallace Witbeck from Roosevelt, and Alan Harrison from Roosevelt and a John Davies from Duchesne. We all went in the Navy together. Right now, three out of that six is still alive, myself, Clark Abegglen and Wallace Witbeck. Clark and I visit once in a while. Wallace Witbeck's brother worked at the temple with me. Wallace worked out at the University of Utah. When he come back, he got a job there. I would check on him once in a while. He called me one day when he came to town. Of course, Norman Long, Clark Abegglen and I visit quite a lot. That pretty much takes care of my service.

Pat: Except you need to tell her who you were in Basic Training with, the dancer.

Faron: After we were there about a week, in the barracks next to us, Gene Kelly came in there. He went through that group. We didn't know anything about Gene Kelly. We knew who he was and that was it.

Lila: Did you tell about the tornado that hit you?

Faron: The typhoon. An LST doesn't draw much water. What I mean is most of your ship is out of the water. You are only in the water maybe fifteen feet and it is just as flat as this room on the bottom. So when those swells would hit you, they would take you up and then they would drop you. You would bounce. There was ten LST's in that convoy. The only time you saw another ship is if you both happened to come up at the same time. But they radioed over one day there, the second day out I think it was. They said, "Stand by and watch the 102, she's split the seams in the main deck." Like I say, we never did see her, only once an hour. But we all made it through and back to Guam and Okinawa.

Ellen: Did you get seasick at all?

Faron: I did the first or two days out and then I got over it and never had any problem after that. During that typhoon, well we went through seven of those typhoons but they wasn't near as bad as that one, but you didn't, you couldn't cook, you couldn't eat. You would just eat crackers and dried food. There was about an eight to ten foot stream of water going. If you'd have fallen overboard you would have never made it. One time and I don't know why we got it or where, but we were in port but everybody got Ptomaine poisoning on the ship but two of us. The two both happened to be engineers. I was in the main engine room when the other kid was in the auxiliary engine room. The auxiliary engine room furnished all their power, electricity and things like this. Then we had what they called evaporators. We made our own water. That was one thing we had. We drank distilled water. We had good water which was made out of sea water, but you had to watch those evaporators pretty careful to keep the water level where it should be. We could make, I think it was thirty-six hundred gallons a day. We used pert near that much, cause we wasn't using the main engines, I took the evaporator room and kept that going. And the other kid took the auxiliary engine room for pert near twenty-four hours until they got enough healed back up to help us. It was quite interesting.

Ellen: So this was while you was out to sea when you got Ptomaine poisoning.

Faron: No, we was in port.

Pat: Talk about the General or whoever you got in bad with.

Faron: McCafton. I don't know how long I had been on there. I was in the deck crew when I first went out. I'd been on there six months or so. They asked me, "Do you want to work on the helm?" That's steering the ship, well, "I'm a truck driver, I can drive this damn ship". So we got up there and we had hydraulic steering. Most of the LST's had the steering down below but they had converted that one over to hydraulic. You just had a little lever, I had been up there a couple of three times. I learned a lot, when you get something big and you have to change directions, it's not like driving a car, once you get it moving, it doesn't stop. That's the catch. You get it started to turn, you better start stopping before you get into that turn. So we left a trail behind us. I kind of got that into hand but when I was up there one night, evening, the hydraulic steering went out. So they had to aft steering, they sent a crew down there and they would steer it by hand. When that happens, the Captain comes up to take over. He didn't know a hell of lot but he come up anyway. I was

standing there and you had phones on so you could communicate with aft steering. We were going along there and he said come left to so many degrees. And that is just the way he said it. He said, "Just come left to so many degrees." So I just said, "Aft steering, come left to so many degrees." He hit his head, "That's not what I said!" "Okay." "The Captain said come left to so many degrees." So I said, "The Captain said come left to so many degrees." My supervisor was on the phone down below and I heard him start to laugh. In a few minutes they sent somebody up to relieve me. Somebody that knew [more about what to say.] They called him the old man. He was forty-five years old and he owned all the taxi cabs in Minnesota. He was a bachelor and he was a dollar a year guy. I don't know whether you know what a dollar a year guy is?

Ellen: No.

Faron: They give him a dollar a year to be in the Navy so he volunteered for service. There was quite a few of them that done that, he had more money than he knew what to do with. They had to pay them so they gave them a dollar a year. Marie Kaczmarek, her dad's name was Bill Havens. He was a dollar a year man. That was our Captain and he didn't know a hell of a lot about driving the ship. He got in trouble two or three times. When I first went on, our Captain was twenty-three years old. He could put that ship any where he wanted it. He didn't have any trouble. This guy, whenever you went into port or had to land he had to have the small boats out to push the bow around where he wanted it. An LST, we could go right up on the land with our bow. You pumped all your ballast (that's water) to the back of the ship and it will raise the bow right up out and then you go right up on the beach. You dropped you stern anchor out a long ways then when you got ready to get off, it was a wench. It just pulled you off the beach. It had a really large cable on the anchor. I came home the 6th of July, 1945 and went back to work driving truck. From then on, I just worked for my dad. Wayne was driving then, too. I was home a year and got married.

Ellen: Did you have a hard time when you came home from the War? Any PTSD?

Faron: I don't think they had much of that after World War II.

Ellen: Lila, tell us how you met.

Lila: We went through high school together and really didn't know each other very well. The night he graduated, he asked me for our first date. That was our first date. We dated until he went in and had written letters back and forth for the two years while he was gone. We dated when he got back for a year. And got married a year later.

Pat: Mom, talk about what he would send you in his letters?

Lila: You couldn't buy gum at that time so he would send me a stick of gum. The letters were interesting. I still have them. If you said anything that they didn't want anybody to know, they cut holes in it. They would just cut holes in the letter taking the sentence out.

Faron: You never sent a letter. You addressed it and had it all ready and it would go to the officers and they read it. Then they would cut out whatever they think shouldn't be in there. Then they would put it in the mail bag and send it home. That was another thing, when we were in Okinawa, before that typhoon hit Okinawa, we had six weeks of mail in the fleet post office there. It was just a big Quonset hut, it blowed that mail, well, I was getting letters in March in China that had been in that fleet post office. They had found them and forwarded them onto me.

Ellen: Did you know that you were going to be married before he left for the service?

Lila: No, there were no commitments, just good friends.

Pat: Where did you go on your first date? You said it was the night you [dad] graduated.

Lila: We went to the dance but we were with several other couples.

Faron: We had four or five different groups of kids. We all went together.

Ellen: Did your parents have a car that you could go in?

Faron: Mine did!

Ellen: What about you? Did your parents have a car?

Lila: No.

Ellen: Where were you born and raised?

Lila: I was born in Naples. I have no record of it, but mom said I was born at my Grandpa and Grandma Goodrich's house. At that time, that was about all that they had was home deliveries. I didn't know [Faron], I knew Verla and Velda but I didn't know Faron until after we were in high school. We just did the usual things. We had bonfire parties on the mountain, cooked our corn and stuff. We had dances, just the usual things, went to movies.

Faron: When we were teenagers, for mutual in the winter time, Showalter's used to flood their where their used cars are (100 South 100 East southeast corner). There was a big open area and they would flood that and make an ice rink there. We would go there and skate. Different people around town would flood their front lawns and kids could come down there and skate. We would go to mutual for opening exercises and then we would get on our bikes and take our skates, or our scout master would take us. Our scout masters name was Golden Kurl. He would take us and go with us. They had one [Ice Pond] down in Naples and we would go down there. Then down to Stewart's Lake in Jensen, Utah, quite often.

Lila: There were big groups and they would drive the car right over on the lake. We would go up to Dock's Beach and roller skate.

Faron: We would go up to Dock's Beach and roller skate every Saturday.

Ellen: So tell us about the day you got married.

Lila: We didn't have a car, so we went with Faron's parents and his grandmother and my mother to Salt Lake City, Utah. We were married in the Salt Lake Temple. It



Our Wedding Day

June 25, 1947

took all day to go through, then. We stayed at the Moxum Hotel. We didn't have a car to get around so we just shopped, window shopped and whatever. We didn't have any money to shop with. Then we came home on the Trailway's bus in a week. We enjoyed life. We had a lot of good friends.

Ellen: So when you came home and started your home life together, where did you live?

Faron: We lived in a house over there that Luetie McCarrell had. It had been a garage and she had made an apartment out of it. She lived right across the road from mother and dad. We lived there for a year and then Allen and Velda [Gentry], they built this house right here. They had a house here, but....For I went in the service, when they tore everything out of Dragon, we went out there and tore one of those houses down and brought it in here. Alan, when he and Velda got married, he put that house back together until he built this house and then we moved in that house [the Dragon house]. We stayed there till we built this house.



The Moxum Hotel



Our Home

395 South 100 East, Vernal, Utah

Ellen: So you've lived in this house how long?

Faron: We built this in 1972.

Lila: We have been married sixty-seven years.

Faron: I went back to trucking with my dad. He had four, I think four, trucks at that time. We hauled livestock, hay, wool, mostly agricultural type of things. The only Gilsonite was in Big Bonanza and Little Bonanza. Dragon and Watson was no longer there. They had, before I went in the service, he hauled Gilsonite from south of Ouray to Heber for two years, the Pariette Mine out there in Myton. I didn't get in on any of that except maybe go with them or something. It

caught the train at Heber. The train used to run from Provo up Heber Canyon and then it went up to Park City there. I don't know which way they took the Gilsonite.

Ellen: Did your family help to bring in the Elk to the Uinta Basin?

Faron: I think Karl Allen brought those in the two or three loads of Elk.

Ellen: Did you have a lot of competition for the trucking business?

Faron: Well, we had Karl Allen, Ern Caldwell, Todd Eaton.

Ellen: There was enough trucking that you didn't have to compete a lot.

Faron: We always had something to do. Sometimes there wasn't too much money in our pocket, but we always got by. I made a lot of trips from here to Craig, Colorado, for \$35. You couldn't even buy the gas now. Well, when my dad started to truck, Joseph P. Hacking, his sister [Jane Elizabeth Hacking was a daughter of John Sampson Hacking [might be an aunt rather than a sister] married my Granddad Southam. She was his first wife. They [the Hackings] were kind of good friends. Then she died and he married Isabell [Herbert]. Anyway, we have always been friends with the Hackings. The sheep men used to trail their lambs in the fall and bring them to Diamond Mountain. They would cut them out and then they would set their old ewes that they were going to sell and they would move these lambs in with them and trail them to Green River, Wyoming. They would loose quite a few of them because of storms and coyotes. Joseph Hacking came to dad and he asked, "Is there some way that we could get you guys together to haul our lambs from Diamond to Green River?" That's where the railroad was. So that's when they started getting into it, because of the road, it was pretty near impossible, especially if you had Rambouillet. Rambouillet sheep, if you put two of them in a pickup, one will lay down on the other one and kill it. They just don't have any life. So it was pretty near impossible, especially lambs, to haul them standing up. So they come up with the idea of laying them down. They would make three tiers, with rows of deck board. We would load the sheep, lay them down, and then put another layer in and do the same until there were three layers. That way, they couldn't move and had to lay right there. So you didn't have much death loss. Then you could go on these roads.

Ellen: How did you get them to lay down?

Faron: We would just pick them up and lay them down. They would lay pretty good.

Ellen: Well, it would take four hours to get there?

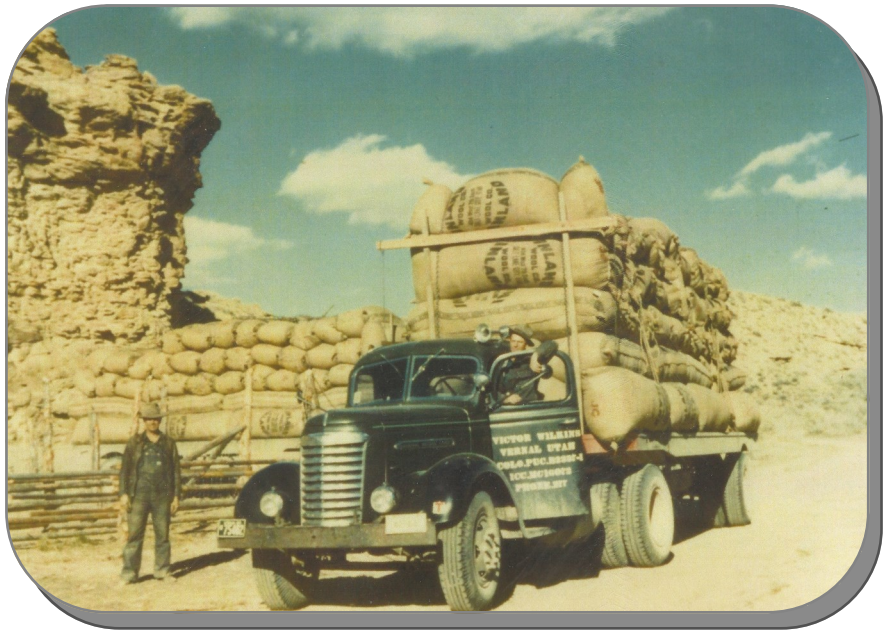
Faron: To Rock Springs? Oh no, it would take longer than that on the dirt roads we had. We had to go, when I started, we didn't haul to Rock Springs, we went to Craig. But when they started hauling to Green River, there was a road when you go down Dowd Mountain, if you look over along the east side there is an old road that is right on the edge of the mountain, well, that's the way they used to have to go. They didn't have a road down where it goes now. They didn't have Sheep Creek. They had the road that went down to where that flood was and that monument but from there to the top of the hill, they just had a wagon road. The CCC's, when they were here built that road from the top of the mountain down to the monument. They built a road so you could go with a vehicles. Other than that, you had to go down that other road. That was a mean road. All the roads across the top of the mountain from Diamond was graveled roads, so it would take, I don't know, it would take at least four or five hours. At that time, I am saying five hours, from the time we left Diamond where the turn is down to the dam, would take us two, maybe three hours. Then when we went over through Sheep Creek, we didn't take the cut off then, we had to go over across Carter Creek and out on top where the Elk Horn Ranger Station is and then come back and go in. It was a long way. In them days, trucks weren't built like they are now. Thirty miles an hour was top speed on a lot of them.

Ellen: Did you ever get tired of driving truck?

Faron: I didn't get tired of driving, I got tired. We used to put in some long hours. When they first started, there was my dad, Ern Caldwell, Karl Allen and Claude Eaton and they had what they call the "Lamb Haul." That's when they ship the lambs in the fall. It would take three weeks to haul those lambs and they would

Wilkins Trucking

Hauling Wool from Dragon and Watson was a sure job in the spring of the year. It was hauled to Craig, Colorado.



Trucks were used to haul sheep and cattle from Diamond Mountain to Green River, Wyoming and Craig Colorado.

Wilkins Trucking
Aaron, Victor, and Faron



just take their bedroll and they would go load, go to Green River and unload and go back to Diamond Mountain. They never came home. They would gas up in Green River and just stay up there and haul sheep.

Ellen: How many gallon tank did they have? Did they have two tanks?

Faron: Some of them had two, some had one. Most of them held maybe twenty or twenty-five gallons of gasoline. If they had two tanks, they might have forty gallons of gasoline. All of them then pert near had tanks under the seat.

Pat: How many miles per gallon did they get?

Faron: I don't know, maybe, well on that kind of a road it was hard to tell. After we started going to Craig, it took twenty-five gallon of gas to go to Craig and back. But, you could by gas for 12 cents a gallon, too. So that was what he started out, he started out at hauling lambs. That's as far as I know this is the only place in the world that they hauled lambs like that, laid them down. As quick as they got the road built up Brush Creek and the road on Diamond, then we started to standing them up. After they got the road built to Craig, why then they built the corral down there to Jensen, just below the Jensen bridge and they would trail the lambs from Diamond down there. We would load them there and take them to Craig. We done that for quite a few years. Then they got the road on Diamond so we could go up there and load them.

Ellen: What kept you busy during the rest of the year?

Faron: Oh, we hauled cattle, there was always cattle, and there was sheep moving different places. We had hay to haul and in the spring we had the wool to haul.

Ellen: So with the industry, we don't have lambs and sheep we don't have wool. That would really cut into a business income.

Faron: That's the time that we bought the buses that went to Bonanza. That was in 1962 and 1963, and it kind of pushed that part of it and phased out [some things]. We hauled wool until the 1980's but the lambs we hauled them, too. They were gradually phased out though. The buses kind of took over.

Ellen: I see that they are back running the buses to Bonanza again.

Faron: See, when they quit us out there, they got down and they were only working fifty or sixty men a day at big Bonanza. Now they're working 300 men. We were making three trips a day and now they are making six.

Pat: Back to the trucks, tell about the time that you got forced off the road, the accident that you had.

Faron: Well that was just a dumb old federal man. Ross Snow was the brand inspector and they had a, I don't know what his name was, for some reason, the federal government put a federal brand inspector here. There was a lot of cattle going across the Colorado state line. Somebody wanted a federal guy here and so they got



him here. He had a little old Plymouth car and I had seen him three or four times in different places. When we would load cattle, he would be there. I'd went to Jensen and Ross Snow's wife was a Harrison, [Vera]. They owned that place out there where Roland Searle lives. When her folks died she got that ground right in there. He was moving his cows from Jensen. He would bring them up there and feed it off in the winter time. I went down to load his cows and was bringing them up from Jensen to there and he was following behind but back a little ways. I got right there where Miller Welding [the southwest corner of 500 south and Highway 40] and I seen that car. I recognized it. I looked again and he had one of these little lights off the back of a pickup, a red-light, and he was holding it out the window. He wanted me to stop. Well, as quick as I seen that, seen who he was and I knew what he wanted, but I went through the intersection. There used to be a [steep] bank off the road there. Well, just as I got through the intersection, that nut pulled up along side of me and then right in front of me. [Keep in mind that this was a two lane road at the time] If I hadn't known what was going to happen, I would have gone over the bank or I would have hit him. I got stopped before anything happened. I still got it out here, a hickory cane, that I use at that time. I come out of that cab with that hickory cane and we had a few words. Ross come up about that time, he said that those cows were his cows and he was to leave me alone. This man just wanted to make sure that, and about that time I told him that he was lucky that I didn't wrap this cane around his neck.

Lila: Faron, tell about the accident you had when the football team was going to Roosevelt.

Lila: Faron, tell about the accident you had when the football team was going to Roosevelt.

Ellen: You drove the bus for the football team?

Faron: No, we were hauling lambs from Diamond. Louis Roberts had a place down in Pleasant Valley. He run sheep and we were hauling his lambs down there and put them in his field in the fall. Right there, just before you get into Gusher the first house on the south side of the road, there used to be a big pile of gravel there. Anyway, I had a load of lambs on there. Homer Haynes, he was a one-arm drunk. He only had one arm but he was drunk all the time. He pulled off to the side of the road to take a drink. Just as I got to him, he pulled up and went square across the front of me. I either had to hit him where he was sitting or try to go behind him. I didn't quite make it behind him, I got up in his trunk. That flipped my tractor over and so we unloaded the sheep right there. It smashed the cab down just as flat as could be. I have never figured out yet, this one hand was under the steering wheel and this one was laying over on the glove box. My feet had got tangled under the clutch and I couldn't move. I had a seat tank full of gas and it broke that spout off and I was upside down. I was laying in the roof and that gas was running down there and luckily, a Chew girl, her sis-



ter come up and put her hand over that gas spout. Luckily, it just burned the back of me cause I was laying in it. Other than that, the only mark I had on me was a little mark from laying on the glove box. Ralph Ashton got in there and got my legs untangled. Then that let my hand loose and I got out.

Ellen: So what has the football team got to do with this?

Faron: Well they stopped. I had the road blocked. All the traffic was stopped, they couldn't get through. I was laying cross-ways on the road. Someone was about to light a cigarette and Charlie Freeman was there and he cornered him. (This accident was reported in the Vernal Express in the October 6, 1955 issue.)

1955-10-06

Two Vernal Men Hurt, 60 Sheep Lost In \$5,000 Truck-Automobile Collision

Two Vernal men were hurt and 48 sheep were killed when a truck and trailer loaded with sheep overturned after hitting a car the truck was attempting to pass. An additional 15 sheep were injured and probably would have to be destroyed making the total damage \$5,000.

The accident occurred Friday at 11:40 a. m. on Highway 40, 23 miles west of Vernal. The road was blocked for 45 minutes.

Driver of the truck, Ferron Wilkins, 27, attempted to pass a car driven by Homer Haynes, 65. Both cars were going west. Mr. Haynes made a left turn and Mr. Wilkins swerved to the right to avoid hitting him.

The truck cab struck the car and knocked it 89 feet into a ditch. The truck and trailer went out of control, overturned and

skidded 47 feet on its top. The top of the cab was flattened almost level with the hood and Mr Wilkins was pinned inside.

Passersby pried him out and he was treated at Uintah County hospital for bruises and gasoline burns and released.

Mr. Haynes suffered broken ribs and shoulder injuries. He was released after treatment but was readmitted Saturday night for medical care for pneumonia possibly caused by shock and exposure in the accident.

The sheep were owned by Louis D. Roberts of Vernal. The huge truck was taking 250 of them to winter feeding grounds in Pleasant Valley, Duchesne.

Mr. Haynes received a citation for making an improper turn, reported Sgt. Sammy Hatch of the Highway Patrol.

Ellen: When you drove truck, now days they are so strict about keeping logs. Did you have to keep logs?

Faron: We were supposed to keep a log. I don't know, in those days they had one inspector at ICC, the Department of Transportation. He had to cover Utah, Wyoming, Nevada, and Colorado. I think that was it. There was just one inspector to cover all those states so you never seen him but maybe once every three years, which was a good thing. He didn't bother you. He would come and check you over a little bit. We didn't, our distance that we drove didn't really require keeping a log. At that time, if you didn't travel further away from home than 150 air miles you didn't have to keep a log. If you went further than that, you did. Well, most of our driving was to Craig and to Salt Lake. If you go air miles to Salt Lake [it's less than 150 miles]. With the buses, we have to keep a log but we didn't to Bonanza and back.

Ellen: Did you drive on any of the bus tours back East or the temple trips?

Faron: I took the temple trips. I never took the trips back East. Wayne done most of them. The way we worked it, see we had the shuttle bus down to the Quarry and then we had the store there too. My job was more or less keeping the trucks and buses running. Wayne's job was helping me if I needed him or if I needed him, we just kind of worked it that way.

Ellen: So was it just you and Wayne in this business now?

Faron: After we bought the buses, daddy wanted to get out, so we bought out his interest. He would help us and stay with us. We wouldn't let him drive anymore, though.

Ellen: Do you still have your license?

Faron: I never did get a CDL license but I still have my driver's license. I had a chauffer's license.

Ellen: So you worked in the temple, how long did you work in the temple?

Faron: I started the day it opened [May-1997] to October 2012.

Lila: That was when he had to have that four by-pass heart operation. He just couldn't do it any longer. He still went back and did sealings and sessions.

Pat: He was a bishop.

Ellen: Lets talk a little about your church service?

Faron: I guess, I was a home teacher. I hope I was a good home teacher. I think Elder's Quorum President was about my first calling and then they made me a Seventy to kick me out of the Elder's Quorum. I was the MIA President twice. I had some good help there. When the 2nd Ward used to comprise of the 2nd and 4th Wards, then they split the ward. I was the Elder's Quorum President in 2nd Ward, well, they left the Quorum together so I had the Elder's Quorum of 2nd and 4th Wards. My counselors were from 4th Ward. Well, we used to be in with 3rd Ward also. We had an Elder's farm out there that we run. They were in on that and then they had all the doctors and lawyers and moneymen in 3rd Ward and they didn't want to come to the



Bishop Faron Wilkins

farm and work. They would rather give you money. So we bought out their interest and ran it for a while. After they released me from the Elder's Quorum Presidency, that's when Bishop Anderson was bishop of 4th Ward and President Walker was the Stake President. They wanted us to sell our farm to 4th Ward so they would have a ward farm. They only wanted to give us half the money that it was worth. We had a chance to sell it for a lot more money and they put it to a vote and I voted against them. Right at that time, President Walker made me a Seventy to get me out of the Elder's Quorum. Then they got the farm. It belonged to the church so they let them have it. It worked alright for me because later on when I became bishop, the church sold all those farms and we had the Fourth Ward farm so we had quite a lot of money in our budget. It made it easier to run the ward. So we have been in Second and Fourth Ward. I was in Second Ward and we are back to Second Ward now. I also served in the High Council for several years, about three years. I was in the bishopric with Bishop Winder and Phil Murray in Second Ward. Then I went in the High Council and then they made Dwayne Soderquist the Bishop. He took me out of there to be his counselor. Then when we moved over here, see that was Second Ward, they made me Bishop of Fourth Ward.

Pat: Dad, who was Bishop when we built the [new] church [building]?

Faron: Ben Lindsey, he and Bishop Anderson. I served as a Bishop for five and a half years. When I was in the Bishopric with Bishop Soderquist and Bishop Winder, I told them, "I'll do anything you want me to do, but I won't conduct a funeral." After they made me Bishop, I wound up conducting twenty-seven funerals. The first one, I had been in two weeks and there was a kid down here, twenty-two or twenty-three year-old, he had got married and he and his wife had split up so he killed himself. That was my first funeral.

Pat: Then you have your brother, your mother and your father.

Faron: I only conducted Clyde's funeral.

Ellen: Tell me your brothers and a little about them.

Faron: I had Wayne, Clyde and Edgar. Edgar was the youngest. When he graduated from high school, he moved to Denver. He has lived over there ever since. McClellan, he bought a ranch out on Willow Creek. He used to be a builder in Denver and then he quit that and bought this ranch. He built those apartments, just a block west of the True Value Store. This is Edgar's father-in-law. He moved his family from Willow Creek and they would come in here and stay in the winter time. Edgar married one of his daughters. When he sold out there, he went back to Denver and back into construction and so Edgar went over there and worked for him and with him. Then my older sister, Verla, she's ninety and she married Howard Walker. They live in St. George, Utah. Then there is Velda, married Alan Gentry and then Elaine married Gene Ray Hall. So I had three brothers and three sisters. Alan and Velda, they owned a ranch out at Dragon, Utah. We would go out there quite a lot. We had reunions, family reunions out there. We would have a lot of fun out there. It was quite interesting.

Pat: When you were talking about what you did in Scouts, what did Scouts do back then?

Faron: I don't remember too many camps we went on. I remember when I was, it had to be a twelve year-old or something, the two stakes used to go right west of where the radio station is, there was a field in there, there was just grass, and once a year they would have a big camp-out right there. They would spend the day doing things, scouting things and competitions. They did that for two or three years.

One other thing, when I was about fifteen, it was in the summertime, we, Aaron and I, we had a load of salt, rock salt [for animals]. We used to go to Salina, Utah, and get rock salt for cattlemen for their cattle. We took it out to Rainbow, to what they call the Wolf Den out there, and at that time the road went up the ridge and you couldn't go off and go down into the Wolf Den with a truck. You had to go with a wagon. So we took that load of salt out there and just unloaded it where the road turned off. When we were turning around to back up to the bank to unload it, we broke an axle. This was like at 8:00 am in the middle of July. Well, at that time, there was no activity out there. If you seen somebody once a month you were lucky out there. So my dad and mother were in California, so nobody knew where we were. So we just headed down over the hill and we walked from there to the White River. It took up all day, it was just getting dark when we got there. Johnny Scott had a store there at the White River where the old White River Bridge crossed. We got to there and about choked to death. There was no water along the way and it was hot that day. I didn't think I would ever get through that one. Then Johnny took Aaron up to Bonanza and he called and they brought us out an axle and we went back to the truck that night. We tore it down and put the axle back in and come home.

Ellen: So you did your own service and everything?

Faron: Yes, I was the service man. Well, Aaron was with me. He taught all us kids how to drive.

Ellen: Did he teach you how to rope?

Faron: I didn't rope. Wayne did.

Ellen: Wayne and Aaron belonged to the Vernal Roping Club.

Faron: The last year in high school I took airplane mechanics from Charlie Freeman. Just helping here and Aaron was a pretty good mechanic. I just picked it up on my own. When I went in the navy, was in charge of small boats. I was a seaman on the first ship and the chance got to go with the engineers down in the engine room. So I applied for that and got that. I went in there and I was MOMM 3rd class, that's the same as a sergeant.

Ellen: Did you receive any military pension?

Faron: When I mustered out, that is all.

Pat: Wasn't there a [mechanic] school that you went to in Salt Lake?

Faron: Well, that was General Motors training. They had a training center. It was a two week school, more like a tune up school for diesel engines.

Ellen: Did you ever have a really big problem that you didn't know how to handle?

Faron: Oh yah, course we got there and then it came to overhauling an engine. I would have someone else come and do it that because they had all the equipment to do that.



Airplane Mechanics with Charlie Freeman

Lila: I think that we need to stop for today but I would like to have another day. I would like to get into our family life.

Ellen: When I come back I would like for you to tell me what you think of the world and what you might do different if you were in control.

Faron: I'll tell you like Norma Anderson told Lila the other day. "She was talking to the Lord and said, 'Frank Sinatra was my favorite singer and you took him. Paul Newman was my favorite actor and you took him. I just wanted to let you know, Barack Obama is my favorite president.'"

August 28, 2014

Faron: Patty wanted me to tell you, I told you that my great-grandfather lived in Peoa, Utah, his family. Then they came and homesteaded at Mountain Home, Utah. My granddad's brother, just younger than him was coming over in the winter time moving their stuff. He came over Wolf Creek Pass, that's the way they came with the sleighs in the winter time. When he came over, he was alone with his horse and sleigh. He got in a snow storm and it killed him. This brother was named Oscar. They went up and hunted for a month to try to find him and they couldn't find him. My granddad was there and they decided to work one more day and then they would have to go home. All of the people that were there, most of them were from Kamas, Utah, and Peoa, Utah. So they could go home on weekends. So they decided they would have to go home and come back after the snow had melted. That night my granddad had a dream and he saw what happened. He got up the next morning and he looked things over and he said that they had been hunting in the wrong place. They needed to be hunting over there and when we find him the horse will be hooked to the back of the sleigh. What happened, he drove into a snowdrift and the horse couldn't break through so he unhooked him and hooked him on the back of the sleigh to pull the sleigh out backwards and that's when the snow slide hit him. He saw this in a dream. They dug a while and they found him. That's in the Kamas Newspaper, about him getting killed. Because of that, the Lord just showed him what happened and he got up the next morning and looked the place over and said that they had been digging in the wrong place. Patty wanted that story in this history. It's part of our history.

Pat: I also asked him if he would talk about his family coming here from England.

Faron: I am not sure, they joined the church. My great granddad and his mother joined the church in England. They came over. He was fifteen or sixteen years old. They got to Omaha and they were with a handcart company. He told daddy "When we left Omaha, I had a brand new pair of shoes and I tied the laces together and hung around my neck. I walked barefoot to Salt Lake. My dad asked, "Why did you do that?" He said, "I didn't know whether I would ever get another pair or not." He and his mother came here along with his two sisters. His mother had been married a couple of times so he had two older sister that never did get married. They lived in London, England. Grandpa, his second mission was to England, he went over and he went and looked these two Aunts up. Grandpa, his dad, my great-granddad, was sending them so much money a month to help them live on. They were using the money to buy booze. He wrote back and told his dad that that's what they was doing so he quit sending them money. Grandpa went to see them before he came home and they met him at the door with a butcher knife. They were a little upset at him. That's just part of the hu-

mor to it. My granddad filled two missions. The first mission was to the Southern States and then one to England. My grandmother's first husband had died. The Wilkins had died and then she married a Garner.

Pat: How did the Southam's get here?

Faron: My Great-Grandmother was born in Scotland. Her mother had other children and she couldn't take care of her so she gave her to her sister to raise. Her sister raised her for a few years, then, I'm not sure what happened, before she came here, her sister gave her to somebody else. She came from England and crossed the plains with this other family. I'm not sure what their names were. We don't have too much history on her side, that's my Grandma and Grandpa Wilkins.

Ellen: Now let's talk about the Southam's.

Faron: Well, I'm not sure when Grandpa Southam came or whether he was born here. I'm thinking his folks were here. He grew up around Morgan, Utah and Round Valley, right in there. Then he came to the Basin, I don't know how old he was. He married a Joseph P. Hacking's sister. She died and he married again. His dad lived in Evanston, Wyoming. We are not related to the Hacking's. My grandmother was the second wife of my grandfather. They only had one daughter. He came here and stayed here the rest of his life. Grandma Southam was a Herbert. She was born and raised here, I think. Grandma and Grandpa had seventeen children. Niles told me that. I could only come up with about fourteen or fifteen. I can name either fourteen or fifteen of the seventeen. Grandma and Grandpa Wilkins had eight children. George Wilkins was my granddad. They lost two babies before they came here, a boy and a girl. My dad was the oldest and then these other two and then they came here and they had five other children when they came here. Out of the eight children, they buried five of them. They raised three, George, Ella and Aaron. Three of them are buried up here and two are buried in Peoa, Utah. They lost three within a year and a half of each other because of the flu epidemic. [Radia Arvilla Wilkins 1916-1918, Grant Wilkins 1912-1915, Oscar Miles Wilkins 1915-1918]

As a family, the boys and I used to go hunting and fishing together. When I say boys, it was Duane and Stuart. Robert was younger and came along after Duane was older. We would hunt with Wayne and his family. My brothers and sister's brother, he had kids the same age and we would all go together. We never hunted Elk much, mostly deer hunting. We loved to hunt pheasants. I shouldn't tell you this but the year after I got back out of the service, that fall, we went pheasant hunting and we started in right out here by the where Vincent's had their dairy, [the Veterinary Clinic], we went up through there and that evening when we got through I had killed eighteen pheasants.

Duane: No wonder there are no pheasants left.

Ellen: Was there a limit back then.

Faron: Oh yah, three. Course there's a group of us and it just seemed like every time we kicked a pheasant out it was right in front of me. We would just go out through the brush and kick the pheasants up as we walked as a group. That was an interesting fall.

Duane: I loved to pheasant hunt with my dad. It was a good time for me. We just had a great time and then we would go deer hunting out to Gentry's and just a lot of great memories.

Ellen: Did you go fishing?

Duane: We would fish at Jones Hole. I remember walking down in there with Dad and Gene. We would fish all day and then walk back out of there. We mainly just fly fished and stream fished.

Faron: We would go different places. We went to Ashley Twins. Aaron and Kine Hatch and Phil and George, Aaron, we made two trips into the High Uinta's around from the other side of the mountain, went to Spirit Lake and then packed in. Then I went with a group, Forest Supervisor Bill Hurst, and Lee Kay. He was more or less the educational arm for the Fish and Game. He took their pictures and things like that. There were two other guys, Ed White and Dr. McQuarrie. Aaron and Scott Rasmussen went with us and we went to the U-Bar Ranch. [above Neola] Then we packed in from there to Fox Lake. We fished there two days. Then went across to Painter Basin into Atwood Lake Basin and fished there and came out by the, over by that, oh what did they call that trail that the sheep men made to trail their sheep out. They had to go single file. Then came down to Chain Lakes, from Atwood to Chain Lakes. We had a lot of fun on that trip. It rained every day. It was pretty country up through there. That's the only trip I made into there.

Ellen: It sounds like you were a very active person.

Faron: Well yah!

Lila: Yes, he was busy all the time.

Faron: Then when we went deer hunting, we would go along Blue Mountain. Most of the time we would go to the Book Cliffs. We would go to Allen and Velda's ranch where we had a house to stay in if we needed, whatever we needed and we had it all to ourselves at that time. There wasn't anybody else out there.

Duane: Their girls were in here going to school and it was fall.

Faron: Allen and Velda had two different places, in the summertime they would stay up to Wendella up at the foot of the pass. Charles and Joan lived up Whiskey Creek and they kept that house for year round staying. When they moved their cattle off the mountain, they would move them to Whiskey Creek. So they would stay there during the wintertime to feed the cows and take care of them. We had that house pretty much to ourselves while we were hunting. Joan would be in here to take the school. It was vacant till we got there. Anyway, we had horses there, pretty much what we needed and we could drive up the canyons and walk back if we wanted.

Ellen: Aren't we glad that the roads have improved out that way.

Faron: Yes and No. You go out there now and see what they've done to it. It breaks your heart. When we moved the last time, things got a little scary to go up Whiskey Creek, see that's in Colorado. We moved to Wolf Den and we hunted there for five or six years. Course we had our horses and the roads were pretty good out there then and we done that until I fell and hurt my shoulder. Now I can't raise a gun up to my shoulder anymore so I don't hunt anymore. I had to quit.

Duane: This was in the early 1990's. The last hunt that I was on with you guys was with Stuart and Robert and we were south of Bonanza. Where were we at dad? We took Stuart's trailer out there and we stayed.

Faron: That was Asphalt Wash, it is by the Wolf Den. We hunted in the Book Cliff area. Allen had a lake that he planted fish in out there. We did a little fishing in there but not very much. I enjoy eating fish. I used to fillet my fish. You would just put them in cornmeal and eat them. Kine Hatch knew how to cook fish.

Ellen: Where did the Hatch's live.

Faron: Right across the street. [400 South between 200 and 300 East].

Pat: They had a log cabin.

Lila: One day it stormed and the place flooded and we were all there trying to help clean it up. We were bucketing it out. It come in so fast that we finally got a pump to help get the water out. She sat there in her rocking chair. She said, "I can't help so I might as well sit and enjoy it." They were good people.

Faron: Kine used to fix all the kids bikes around here, the tires and stuff. They called him Grandpa Hatch. He herded sheep for most of his life and then he retired in our neighborhood. He herded sheep for pert near everybody up there on the mountain.

Ellen: Do you remember Newton Brothers?

Faron: Oh yah. I was in there a few times. Those people were known all over the world. They sent saddles everywhere. That's where Duane Soderquist got started. He worked for them. He worked in the shop that was on North Vernal Avenue. I was just maybe twelve to fifteen years-old when they were over there.

Ellen: You were a town kid. What was your most favorite place to go to?

Faron: Oh we would go the the Vogue Theater on Saturday's for a nickel or a dime, to the matinee. They didn't have popcorn then. If they did, I don't remember it. I enjoyed the movies and looked forward to the series that they used to have, like Batman, they would always have them before the main feature. Every Saturday you would go to the movie. Then Ralph Alexander had a Confectionary. It was right there where Showalter's Garage is, right in there. [South side of Main Street between Vernal Avenue and 100 East] That was the Trailway's Bus Station, too. It sold tickets there for the buses. He had a fountain and you could get malts, shakes or whatever you wanted, just like at the Vernal Drug. So we spent a lot of time there. Evans Bakery used to make some good donuts.

Ellen: Do you remember Calders Confectionery that was on South Vernal Avenue?

Faron: That must have been before my time. I remember the bank and a few little stores and then you got to Mrs. Rudge's Flower Store. She had the parrot. She would make a lot of the corsages for our girlfriends to go to dances. We would order them. I don't remember paying very much for them. I don't think they were over a dollar or maybe two. She had her store and then the (Fred or Don or Nelson) Weeks, he had a barber shop right there next to Mrs. Rudge, Oscar Lyman had a grocery store and then Evans Bakery was next to him. This is all on the west side of the street. Calder's had the Buick garage [on the corner of 100 south and Vernal Avenue] just below the Evans Bakery. That took up that whole block, then Ashton's had their lumber yard in behind these stores. Ashton's always had a lumber yard as long as I can remember. Belcher had that little stand, [The Pig Stand]. He built it right there, the first one he had, just above Mrs. Rudge's. There was a vacant lot there. He built that there and sold hamburgers. You would just go up to the window and order them, you didn't have any place to sit down. Then he got the chance to buy that ground where the 7-11 Café is now so one night he got someone, I can't remember who it was, to bring a cat in and he just hooked on to it and drug it down to where he is at now. He moved it back far enough that he had stools, room for stools, in the front.

Ellen: Okay, he built some on the front, then it later turned into the Grub Box and later the 7-11 Cafe .

Faron: There was a family, a house right there where the Garden Gate Floral [45 E. Main] was, before Hawkins built the Western Living, there was a family that lived there and I can't remember their names, in a house and it sat back off the sidewalk. Then you have the vacant lot east of there.

Ellen: Okay, when was O. P. Skaggs in there?

Faron: I don't know. There was those building where Ray Nash and them has their attorney offices. They were between the Vogue Theater and this house. Then you had the Drug Store and Charlie Hatch had a meat market right there. Then you had the another little store and the Uintah State Bank. I think there was a store there. Then up the street there was J C Penny's.

Ellen: Do you remember the Chrystal Pool on North Vernal Avenue.

Faron: Oh yah. I used to swim there. It was outdoors. There was the pool and the flour mill right there. [400 South and Vernal Avenue]. When I was in grade school we used to go there swimming.

Ellen: What do you remember about the old tabernacle?

Faron: That's where I was baptized. We used to go there for Stake Conference. Then we used to hold, well, that scout breakfast that they hold now, that's where it originated was there on the tabernacle lawn. We started out, I was in on that when it started. Before that they would have just a big get together there, having different things for kids to do for the 24th of July. We had fish ponds and different things like that. It was kind of like a carnival. Then LaRel Anderson built that pancake machine and that's when they started breakfast for the 24th. LaRel was always willing to help and he helped with that breakfast for a long time. He always wore that little white hat. But that is where it originated and then later on it moved up to the ball park after they built them. I was in on the starting of that thing.

Ellen: The Boy Scouts of America was involved in this breakfast. How did the Church and the BSA work together then?

Faron: We had a scout assessment, like \$25 a year to register and take care of a boy. That was one of the reasons for that breakfast. The wards could sell tickets and they got to use that money for their scout fund. Later on they changed it and they needed it for administration of the scouts and then the wards couldn't have the money. Originally it was supposed to come to the wards and pay their scout assessment. That was done that for quite a few years. Scouts were not allowed to sell tickets it had to be leader participation only.

In 1968, we contracted with the National Park Service to shuttle visitors from the lower parking lot up to the Dinosaur Quarry. So after the kids was raised and after we sold the buses, I kept the shuttle bus at the Dinosaur and the mail contract. We also had the mail contract. Wayne took the



store down to the Park. He would run the store down to the Park in the summertime, see that just run for 100 days. He would go on these long trips. When school started, other than the mail, we were pretty much free. So we started going on the trips, Lila and I. They were in the fall. We went on a trip to Florida and back to Grand Ol' Opry in Nashville, Tennessee, then to Kentucky and back home. The next time we went to Branson, Missouri. We were busy there. You could see two shows a day. One in the afternoon and one at night and you were busy. Course, we had other things to do during the daytime. You could have sites to see and it is quite interesting country down there. They had a college there and it is strictly for kids who couldn't afford to go to college. They had it set up so they could come there and they did all the work. They cleaned the yards, they did all the work for their tuition. They would also contract out with places like the airport to go out and clean there. The students would go other places to work so that they could go to school. The students did all the work to help pay their tuition. They had to be screened in order to get the tuition. They didn't have more than a thousand students. It pretty well took care of itself. We took ferry trips up the river on the trips that were booked for us. One night we spent the night on there and had dinner. They had entertainment and shows to go to. It's an interesting place. The next year or two we went on a church tour. We flew from Salt Lake City to Niagara Falls, New York. We caught the bus there. Wayne had taken the bus, left two days before we did, and went to New, York. He and one of the drivers deadheaded to Niagara Falls. He met us there, the reason he done that, if you spend fourteen or fifteen days on a bus, it gets a little old. It cuts the time you were on the bus by three or four days. Then we just toured, mostly upper New York, where ever the Church sites were. Then we came back to Omaha, Nebraska and flew back to Salt Lake City. We covered all of the church sites. We went to the Nauvoo temple and got to do a session. We went to St. Louis and saw the Reorganized Church Building and the Church information center there. We just covered that whole northern part of that area. We went to the arch, and we got there and it scares you. They have an elevator that takes you up but we got there too late. We went to Washington D.C. That is one of the places that I would have liked to have gone back to that I have been to. There is so much to see there. We spent three days there. Gene and Elaine [Hall] and Lila and I flew in there. We just didn't have enough time. You just can't cover it all. That was before the World War II Memorial was there. That Smithsonian Institute, you could spend two or three months and not see it all. We went to the Pentagon and toured there but we did not get to go to the White House because there was some big dignitary there and they had it all closed off.

Ellen: Who was president when you were back there?

Faron: I don't know. I can't remember. Orin Hatch was a Senator. Gene wrote to him and he told him when we were coming and he had one of his girls that worked for him, a member of his staff, lined up to take us. So we, just the four of us, had her as a personal guide. She took us, she had been there quite a little while and was from Draper, Utah. She had worked for him for quite a while. We went right from his office, just underground and got on a little trolley that senators take over to the bottom of the Capitol. We toured the Capitol and we got to see a lot of things. If you just go there on a tour, you don't get to see much. Where she had permission and could get in anywhere she wanted to, we got to go into a lot of places nobody else could get in to. It was interesting, we spent all afternoon down there.

Lila: We did lots of walking. It was interesting to watch them change the guard there and Arlington Cemetery, too. There was so many things to see.

Faron: I would have liked to have gone back there. We never did and won't now. It has changed.

Faron: We took a trip to Yellowstone. We had never been on a trip alone so after we shut the Dinosaur down we went to Yellowstone. We spent two days there. I had been to Yellowstone, along time ago our FFA Club went to Yellowstone when I was in high school. When they had that bad fire up there a few years ago I took some firefighters up there too. I stayed there and hauled them around. I would haul them to their stations. We went pretty much all around.

Lila: And we never saw a bear.

Faron: We saw a lot of Buffalo and some Elk. We come back to Cody, Wyoming. You could spend a day in the Buffalo Bill Museum. They have more guns than.... I had guns but now I can't shoot them because of my arm.

Ellen: Did you ever have surgery on that arm?

Faron: I tore the muscles in my left upper arm. I went two years before I had it fixed so they pulled the muscles back and put pins in there. It doesn't hurt but I still can't raise my arm.

Ellen: What other health issues have you faced?

Lila: Two of everything!!!!

Pat: Double hip replacements!!!

Ellen: Any of your knees?

Faron: Nope, still got my knees. I have had four by-passes.

Lila: Two carpel tunnel surgeries.

Pat: And a pacemaker.

Ellen: Did you wear glasses when you were younger?

Faron: No, I have to wear them to read. I can see off pretty good in the distance but I have had cataract surgery. I have holes in my retina. They put gas bubbles on the back of my eyes. I don't know whether he put them on the last time but he did the first time. When he done that first eye, he said that there my be a problem when we go over [Daniels Canyon-Strawberry Valley] so he told us that when he got through operating that he wanted us to go home. He wanted us to get out of there and get over the mountain. We did and I didn't really have any problem. Wayne did. When he had his done and it took him two or three days to feel better after coming home. When he did the other eye, he didn't put the bubble on I don't think. That surgery didn't help my eyes any. I am supposed to look at an eye chart everyday to make sure that my eyes are not getting worse but I don't. I can tell when I go to read whether they have changed. They haven't changed much. Dr. Seitz checks my eyes for me and tells me that they are not changing much.

Lila: I think the surgery kept them from getting worse, it stabilized them.

Ellen: What about traditions that you did?

Faron: Duane played baseball when he was in high school. He also played football.

Pat: Dad drove the bus to Grizzly Ridge so we could go skiing. I don't think we would have ever had the chance to go skiing if it hadn't been for that.

Duane: I only went one time and that is part of the reason...[Duane hurt his knee the first time skiing].

Pat: I went lots and I loved it.

Duane: And I have a new knee now. I never skied again in my life.

Pat: I remember when we used to get to go with on the truck with dad, when he had a day trip sometimes, at least I loved going on the truck with him. He was gone so much that it was kind of like one-on-one time with him.

Duane: The one trip I remember was when I was in high school. I don't know how old I was, probably fifteen or sixteen. I came home from school one Friday night and dad was sitting there ready and he said, "Let's go!" He threw me in the truck and we went, I think there was two trucks went, we took two loads of cows to Craig, Colorado. We spent the night in Craig and the next morning there was six inches of snow and then we went and loaded pop bottles to bring back to the Coca-Cola plant. [The Coca-Cola distributing is on 760 North Vernal Avenue]

Faron: The Coke plant used to ship their bottles, when they bottled pop here, they would have a railroad car-load come into Craig and then we would have to load them and bring them down here. The bottles were in boxes.

Duane: When I was going to school in Salt Lake after I graduated. I came home that one winter and we went over to Pleasant Valley to haul hay. We got it loaded and got stuck and we had all those tractors and everything hooked on to us, trying to pull us out. That was a cold winter day.

Ellen: We all need those cold days to appreciate the nice days.

Faron: I've had my share of them.

Lila: He used to take me to Craig, to take a load of wool or something. That was part of our dating. I was tickled to go. That was after he got home from the service too.

Pat: His favorite gum used to be [Wrigley's] Doublemint. I remember that.

Faron: My favorite thing to eat was food. I wasn't too picky about anything. Lately I am.

Pat: We used to go to the A&W for ice cream.

Lila: We used to go to the [Sunset] Drive-In Theater.

Faron: We used to go up there and take the kids.

Pat: As kids we would be out in the field playing baseball, we had a basketball standard that we played basketball.

Duane: We played kick-the-can at night.

Lila: We had a whole neighborhood full of kids. Wayne had three kids, two boys and girl. We had three boys and a girl. Phil and Enid had two boys and a girl. Dimicks had three boys. Nyle and Janis Bigelow had five boys. Velda and Allen had four girls. We had quite a neighborhood. Kent Southam [1948-1961] was over there, too. The kids would be over there playing cops and robbers and bows and arrows. I said, "Wouldn't they have a fit now if our kids did that." They used to not be as particular about keeping the Sabbath Day holy

as they are now but on Sunday our family would always meet down to my mother and dads. We would have a pot luck dinner and the kids would play baseball out on the front lawn. Dad had made a bat and mom had made the ball. We really had fun. The ball was a silk stocking wadded up and then the string was wound around it.

Lila: Can I share something? I am not very good at talking so I wrote it down: After we came back from Salt Lake when we were married. We had a reception in the old Naples Ward Chapel. There were lots of relatives and friends came and brought nice wedding gifts. We lived in a small apartment on 340 South Vernal Avenue. It had three rooms, the living room, kitchen, and bedroom. Even though it was small, we were very happy. While we lived there our first baby was born. His name was Duane. I'd never been around a baby before so I was really nervous but he was a good baby and we got along fine. Later we moved into a larger house, it had two bedrooms, a living room and kitchen and bathroom, there was even a storage room. The other three children were born while we lived there, Patty, Stuart and Robert. They were good kids but once in a while they got into mischief and we would get upset with them. They all went to Central School, Middle School, Junior High and High School and graduated. They also attended Seminary. Duane and Stuart went to Utah Trade College in Salt Lake City, Utah, and graduated. Duane took electronics and Stuart took building trades. Patty went to BYU and graduated in business technology. Robert went to work for several oil field companies. Our children have all done really well and are hard workers. In 1972, we built a home at 395 South 100 East in Vernal. We have really enjoyed it. It had three bedrooms, two bathrooms, living room with a full finished basement. We have enjoyed having the kids and their families come to stay with us. Duane married Margie Glines and they have three children, Greg, Holly and Kara. They have seven grandchildren. They live in Mesa, Arizona. Patty married Paul Roden. They had four daughters, Heather, Kimberly, Rebeca, and Kaitlyn. They have four grandchildren and they all live in Salt Lake City. Stuart married Holly Powers and they have three children, Bryan, Dustin, and Tiffany. They have seven grandchildren. Another baby of Tiffany's died at birth. Bryan and his family live in Logan, Utah. The others live in Vernal, Utah. Robert married Joanna Merkley. They have two daughters, Andrea and Monique. Robert and Joanna live in Vernal and the girls live in Grand Junction where they went to Mesa College. We love our family and appreciate all they do for us, especially the last three years. Faron's health has been bad and has had four by-passes on his heart, a pace-maker, and has had many surgeries since then. Having problems with fluid around his heart, he has congestive heart failure and hasn't felt well for a long time. His kidney's also give problems. We have all had so many blessings. Faron has had some doctors and surgeons that have really saved his life many time. We have been married 67 years and are thankful that we are still together.

Ellen: That was wonderful. You talked about your children getting into mischief. What kind of discipline did you provide.

Lila: Patty, tell them about the little green willow.

Pat: When we got in trouble, we were sent out to the willow bush to pick the willow and whipped on the back of our legs.

Lila: I knew they would pick a small one, if I picked it I would have picked a larger one.

Ellen: That was Lila, Faron how did you punish? Or did you?

Faron: Not very often.

Lila: I don't think they ever had any bruises.

Pat: I used to like to get sent to the storage room at Christmas time. That was where the Christmas candy was stored.

Duane: I never got in trouble (everyone giggles).

Lila: He was accident prone.

Duane: There was a few times when we threw a few eggs and a few rocks at mail boxes. We went swimming at night at the pool after it had closed. There was a lot of apologizing and doing this and that to rectify things. Our parents have taught us very well in many things. Dad tell about some of the trips to Arizona.

Faron: Well, after Duane and Margie moved to Arizona, after they were married, I think we went down there and spent Thanksgiving and Easter for 43 years straight. The last three years, we haven't been down. Up until then we went at least once a year and spent time with them. We drove at first and then we took the airplane. We would go to Salt Lake and Patty would pick us up and take us to the airport. When we drove we had different routes we took so we got to see scenery. We would bring back grapefruit. Now I can't have grapefruit and I love grapefruit. If it's a choice between an orange or a grapefruit, I'll take the grapefruit every time. They raised the best grapefruit. We would bring quite a few back. When we flew, we could each bring two boxes back. Grapefruit will last a long time, the longer you leave them on the tree, the juicier they are. We would pick them the night before we were to come home.

Duane: This spring I brought a pick-up load of grapefruit and oranges and was giving them to anyone who would take them.

Faron: While on one of our trips to Arizona, Greg, Duane's son, was supposed to go to the dentist. He had a dentist appointment and he didn't want to go. Duane was working. Margie and I and Lila was there. Margie couldn't catch him and I said, "Well, we'll have to get him and go." So I was going to try and catch him but they got a six-foot cinderblock wall around their yard. Before I could get to him, he got over that wall. We finally just said, "Hey, we're going. If you want to come with us you better come." We got him there but he wasn't too happy.

Duane: That was a good story.

Faron: I think he remembers it.

Ellen: How old is Greg now?

Duane: He is forty-five? He's my oldest. Margie and I married when I was two years out of high school. We moved to Phoenix, Arizona, in 1969 and we were only going to stay five years. We decided we liked the sunshine better than we did the snow.

Lila: We also went to Duane's for special things like baptisms and weddings. Patty got married and lives in Salt Lake City.

Ellen: Do you still have class reunions.

Faron: We quit having class reunions. I see some old class mates. Norma Anderson keeps track of them.

When one dies she calls me.

Lila: Our class reunions are just an afternoon at the 7-11 Restaurant. They reserve the back room for a couple of hours and we meet there and visit. Some of them go to another person's home and visit. I haven't made the last two. They have them every year. The reunion was just a couple of weeks ago and there was a picture in the paper.

Lila: Faron has been a really good man and we have been really blessed. We have had a good life. We didn't have a lot of money to spend or anything like that but we have had plenty to live on and not had to go in debt.

Ellen: I am sure that he can say that about you also.

Faron: Yah.

Pat: We have been blessed with great parents.

Family Photos

Some have been included in the history.



Harry and Isobel Southam

Left to Right are:

Wallace Southam

Ethel Southam George

Alice Southam

Grant Southam

Elizabeth Southam

Ralph Southam

Merle Southam

Clair Southam

Seated are

Harry Southam

Isobel Southam

Niles Southam



Harry Southam



Isabelle Herbert Southam



George Edgar Wilkins



Zina Miles Wilkins



Victor and Merle Southam Wilkins

November 22, 1972—Golden Wedding Anniversary



The Victor Wilkins Family

Clyde, Verla, Faron, Velda, Wayne and Elaine

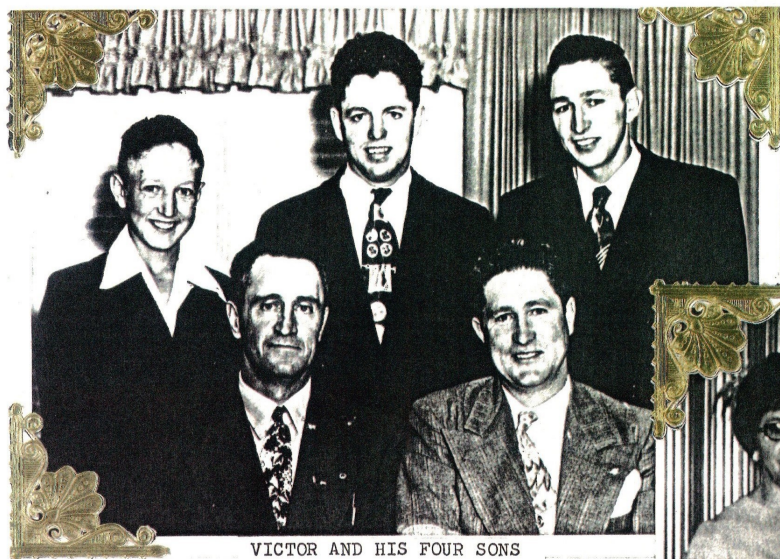
Merle, Edgar, and Victor.



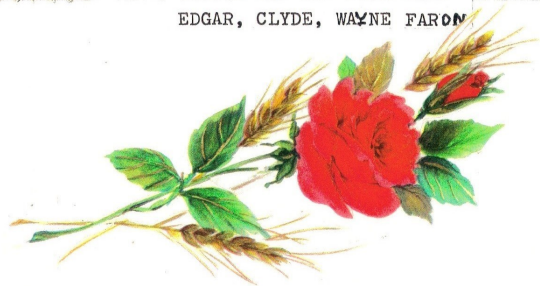
Velda Wilkins, Verla Wilkins

Victor Wilkins, Merle Wilkins,

Faron Wilkins, Elaine Wilkins and
Clyde Wilkins.



VICTOR AND HIS FOUR SONS
EDGAR, CLYDE, WAYNE FARON



MERLE AND HER DAUGHTERS
VELDA, ELAINE, VERLA, MERLE



The Faron Wilkins Family
Duane, Patty, Robert, Stuart
Faron and Lila

Faron and Lila's
65th Wedding Anniversary





Our
65th Wedding Anniversary
At Robert and Johnanna's
On July 7, 2012
Our Children's Surprises



*Faron and Lila's
65th Wedding Anniversary
At Robert and Johanna's*

Mom and Dad have never wanted a big party to celebrate their birthdays or anniversaries, so we have honored their wishes and had low-key family get-togethers instead. However, realizing their ages and health, as their 65th Anniversary was approaching on June 25th, 2012, I contacted my brothers and asked if we could do a surprise party for them so they wouldn't stress about it.

I arranged an announcement in the Vernal Express for the week of June 25th. (That was the first surprise.)

My brothers all agreed and we decided to hold it in Robert and Johanna's beautiful yard in Maeser on Saturday, July, 7th. Their Anniversary is June 25th, however, to meet all schedules, we delayed the party a few days. Duane and his wife, Margie, arranged to fly into Salt Lake City, from Mesa, Arizona, the day before, on

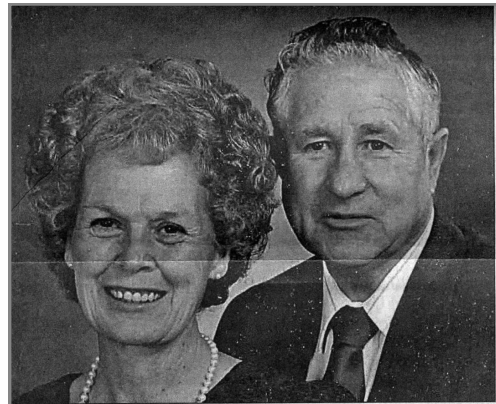
Friday, July, 6th. My husband, Paul and I picked them up and we drove to Vernal, where Stuart and Robert met us at Mom and Dad's and we all walked in the house unannounced! Mom was sitting at the kitchen bar and was very surprised - almost speechless; and Dad was sitting in his chair in the living room and was also very surprised. We told them what we had planned for the next day and spent that day just visiting.

On Saturday, we gathered at Robert's and also included Phil Murray and Alan Gentry, both brother-in-laws of Mom and Dad. Robert's daughter, Monique, also joined us. We had a banner made from their wedding picture and also played music from the 1940's. We ate delicious food that we all had contributed and laughed, shared memories and visited for many hours. It was such a fun day and Mom and Dad both enjoyed it.

The next day, Sunday afternoon, we met in Mom and Dad's living room and interviewed them - asking questions about their lives, while my husband, Paul, recorded it on video.

It was a weekend, that none of us will forget. As we left their home, however, we were told that next time - NO SURPRISES!

Written by their daughter, Patty.



FARON AND LILA WILKINS

Faron and Lila Wilkins of Vernal recently celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary. They were married June 25, 1947 in the Salt Lake LDS Temple.

Faron was born in Vernal and Lila in Naples, and during their married life their home has been in Vernal. They love spending time with their family and in their yard. Faron was the former co-owner of Wilkins Transportation.

Since retiring, he loves gardening and being involved in Vernal LDS Temple service. Lila is a homemaker - she

has spent many hours sewing and doing beautiful handwork and loves to read.

Both are devoted members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints and have provided many hours of service and kindness to others.

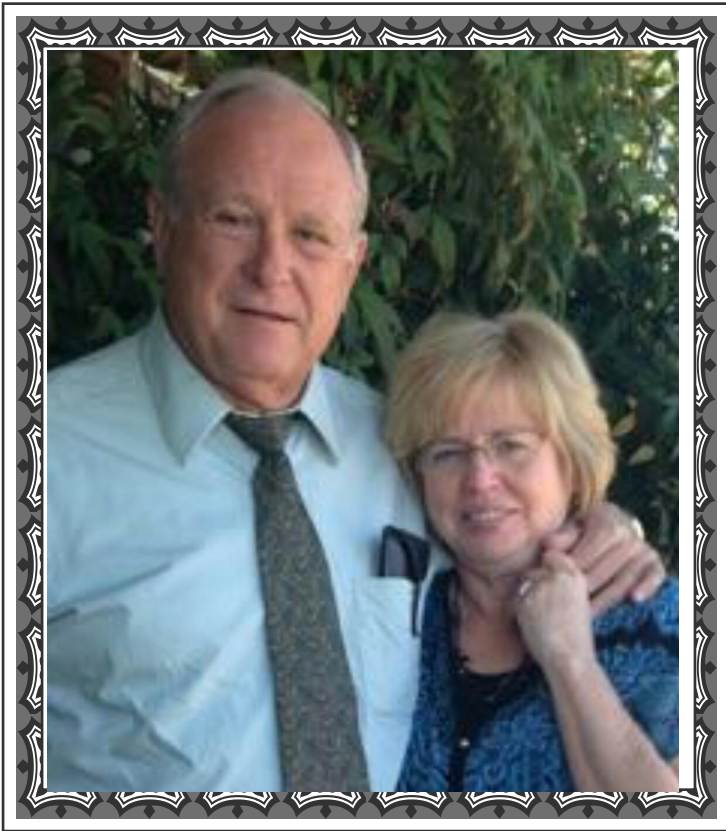
They are the proud parents of Duane Wilkins (Margie) of Mesa, Arizona; Pat Roden (Paul) of Draper, Utah; Stuart (Holly) Wilkins of Vernal; and Robert Wilkins (Joanna) of Vernal; loving grandparents of 12, and great-grandparents of 18 plus three "bonus" great-grandchildren.

Our Family

“All Because Two People Fell In Love”



Pat and Paul
Roden
With their
Children and
Grandchildren



Duane and Margie Wilkins



Holly Lundell with her
son, Tanner and her
daughter, Olivia



Greg Wilkins with his daughters, Amanda and Megan



Kara and Jamey
Walter
With their
Children
Emma,
Aiden, and
Jake

Stuart
And
Holly



Dustin and Meagan Wilkins
With their children
Karter, Bridgette, and Grayson



Bryan and Haley
Wilkins
Their Children are
McCrae.
Kellon
Dawson
Chesney

Tiffany and Chris
Allen
With Ryker





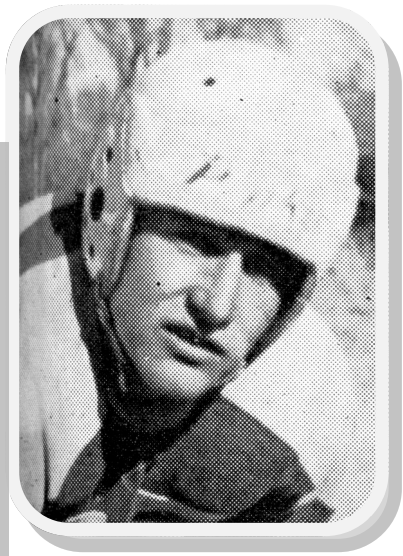
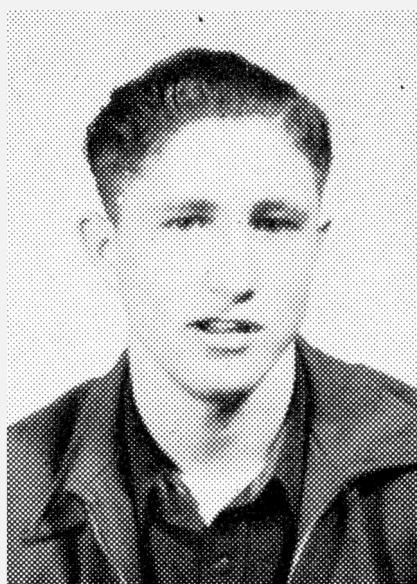
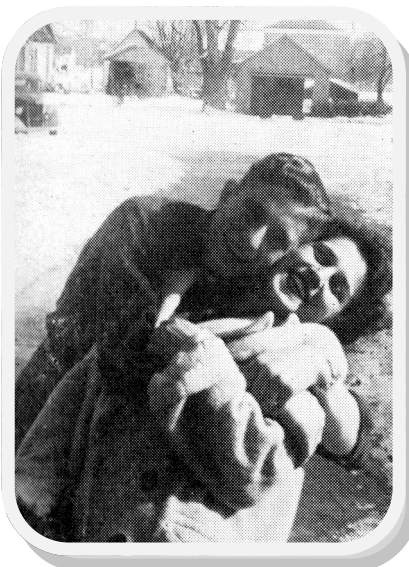
Robert and Joanna Wilkins

And their daughters

Andrea and Monique

Uintah High School

Class of 1944



Wilkins Trucking



